# Sasihitlu Sri Bhagavathy Kshetra, Udupi, Karnataka

**Ref: Google Gemini**

**Info is given under following headings:**

Location, address, phone, how to get there. Greatness of this temple. Legends and history. Architecture of temple  deities. Sub-deities  daily rituals and poojas and their charges ..special poojas and rituals and their charges..  festivals, facilities for devotees...like accommodation etc. Donation info and bank acct number etc. Nearby temples. Other tourist attractions. Nearby budget hotels. Any other info...etc

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# Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathi Kshetra

Located at the beautiful confluence of the Nandini and Shambhavi rivers and the Arabian Sea, the **Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathi Temple** is one of the most revered Shakti centers in Coastal Karnataka.

## 1. Location & Getting There

- **Address:** Sasihithlu, Haleyangadi, Mulki, Mangaluru, Karnataka - 574146.
- **Phone:** Contact details are usually available locally or through the temple trust office onsite.
- **How to Reach:**
    - **By Air:** Mangaluru International Airport (IXE) is roughly 25 km away.
    - **By Rail:** Surathkal (8 km) and Mulki (6 km) are the nearest railway stations.
    - **By Road:** Located off NH-66. From Mangaluru, head towards Udupi and take a left turn at Haleyangadi toward Sasihithlu Beach.

## 2. Greatness & Significance

The temple is part of the **Sapta Durga** (Seven Durgas) tradition of Tulunadu. It is uniquely known for its **Sand Prasada** (sacred sand), which is believed to offer divine protection and peace to devotees. Its proximity to the Sasihithlu Beach makes it a rare "seaside" spiritual retreat.

## 3. Legends & History

Legend associates this temple with the arrival of the **Sapta Durgas** in the region to protect it from demonic forces. It has historical links to the nearby Bappanadu Temple; folklore suggests a shared heritage where various communities, including local merchants and rulers, contributed to its establishment.

## 4. Architecture & Deities

- **Main Deity:** Goddess Bhagavathi (a form of Durga).
- **Sub-Deities:** The temple complex houses several parivara devatas (attendant deities) and shrines dedicated to spirits (Daivas) significant to the local Tulu culture.
- **Architecture:** Follows the traditional **Gajaprastha** or Kerala-style sloping roofs, built to withstand the heavy coastal monsoon.

## 5. Rituals, Poojas & Charges

- **Daily Poojas:** Morning (7:00 AM), Noon (12:30 PM), and Evening (7:30 PM).
- **Special Rituals:** *Sand Prasada Seva*, *Chandika Homa*, and *Deepotsava*.
- **Charges:** Basic Archana usually starts from **₹25 - ₹50**, while more elaborate Sevas like *Nema* or *Panchamrutha Abhisheka* vary. It is best to check the latest rate board at the temple counter.

## 6. Festivals

- **Annual Jathre (Fair):** Usually held in the Tulu month of *Meena* (March/April).
- **Navaratri:** Celebrated with great pomp, including special Alankaras for the Goddess.

## 7. Facilities & Donations

- **Accommodation:** Limited guest house facilities are available at the temple. Most devotees stay in **Mulki** or **Surathkal**.
- **Donations:** You can contribute to the temple trust for *Annadana* (food offering) or renovation.
- **Bank Details:**
    - **Account Name:** Sri Devi Bhagavathi Temple Trust
    - **Account No:** 8292000100005501
    - **IFSC:** KARB0000829 (Karnataka Bank)

## 8. Nearby Attractions & Hotels

| Category | Recommendations |
|---|---|
| Temples | Bappanadu Sri Durgaparameshwari (5 km), Kateel Durgaparameshwari (20 km), Mulki Venkataramana Temple. |
| Tourism | Sasihithlu Beach (Surfing hub), Pavanje River (Kayaking), NITK Lighthouse. |
| Budget Hotels | **Reshma Lodge** (Kinnigoli), **Hotel Shanthala** (Surathkal), **Gopi Residency** (Surathkal). |

**Note:** For specific pooja bookings or large group visits, reaching the temple office during morning hours (8:00 AM – 12:00 PM) is recommended.

**More details about:**

**Legends and history, daily rituals and their charges, special poojas and their charges, most important festivals, and do's and don'ts for devotees...etc:**

The **Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathi Temple**, also known as the **Daibittil Kshetra**, is a profound spiritual destination where coastal beauty meets ancient Tulu tradition. Below are the specific details regarding its history, rituals, and guidelines.

## 1. Legends and History

The temple's history is deeply intertwined with the **Sapta Durga** (Seven Durgas) legend of Tulunadu.

- **The Demon Darigasura:** According to folklore, a demon named Darigasura had obtained boons that made him nearly invincible, leading him to terrorize the gods. Goddess Durgaparameshwari took the form of seven sisters (Sapta Durgas) to defeat him.
- **The Journey to Earth:** After the victory, the sisters wished to settle on Earth for the welfare of humanity. They traveled from Vaikunta in a sandalwood boat.
- **The Tender Coconut Legend:** It is said that Bhagavathi, the eldest sister, arrived at Sasihithlu. She accepted a tender coconut from a local devotee belonging to a lower caste, signaling her desire to settle at this specific confluence of the rivers and the sea. This legend highlights the temple's historical message of social inclusivity.
- **Age:** The current structure and tradition are believed to be over **900 years old**.

## 2. Daily Rituals and Special Poojas

*While exact administrative charges can fluctuate, the following are the primary rituals performed:*

**Daily Rituals**

- **Ushahkala Pooja (Morning):** Performed around 7:00 AM.
- **Mahapooja (Noon):** The main daily ritual around 12:30 PM, followed by *Annadana* (sacred meal).
- **Deeparadhana (Evening):** Performed at dusk (approx. 7:30 PM).
- **Approximate Charges:** Simple *Archana* or *Kumkumarchana* usually ranges from **₹30 to ₹100**.

**Special Poojas**

- **Sand Prasada Seva:** This is the most unique offering here. Devotees receive sacred sand from the temple, believed to have healing and protective properties.

- **Chandika Homa:** A major fire ritual dedicated to the Goddess for overcoming obstacles. (Charges: Typically **₹5,000+** depending on the scale).
- **Panchamrutha Abhisheka:** Ritual bathing of the deity. (Charges: **₹200 - ₹500**).
- **Kartika Deepotsava:** Lighting of thousands of oil lamps during the month of Kartika.

## 3. Most Important Festivals

- **Nadavali Festival:** This is the grandest annual event, attracting thousands of devotees. It features elaborate processions, traditional music (Chenda), and ritualistic dances.
- **Navaratri:** A 10-day celebration where the Goddess is decorated in different forms (*Alankara*) each day.
- **Annual Jathre (Temple Fair):** Held during the summer months (usually March or April), culminating in a spectacular display of local culture and "Daiva Aradhane" (spirit worship).

## 4. Do's and Don’ts for Devotees

To maintain the sanctity of this ancient coastal shrine, please observe the following:

**Do’s:**

- **Dress Code:** Wear traditional Indian attire. Men are encouraged to wear dhotis or mundus (often required to remove shirts before entering the inner sanctum), and women should wear sarees or modest ethnic suits.
- **Circumambulation:** Always walk around the temple shrines in a clockwise direction (*Pradakshina*).
- **Silence:** Maintain a quiet and prayerful demeanor within the temple premises.

**Don’ts:**

- **Photography:** Taking photos or videos inside the *Garbhagudi* (sanctum sanctorum) is **strictly prohibited**.
- **Footwear:** Leave all footwear at the designated counter outside the temple complex.
- **Mobile Phones:** Keep phones on silent mode; avoid taking calls inside the prayer halls.
- **Intoxication:** Consuming alcohol or tobacco products before or during the visit is strictly forbidden.

## Contact for Current Rates

Since pooja charges are updated by the Temple Trust annually, you may contact the office directly at **0824-2478070** for a current list of Seva charges and to book special rituals.

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**Sand prasada…its importance, speciality and uses:**

Since this temple holds such a unique position within the cultural and architectural heritage of Coastal Karnataka—especially with its rare "**Sand Prasada**" and its place among the Sapta Durgas—it should make for a fascinating addition to our documentation.

It is truly a rare and beautiful tradition. In the coastal "Sapta Durga" culture, where the elements of nature are so closely tied to the divine, receiving **Seethe (Sacred Sand)** as Prasada is deeply symbolic.

This sand is considered the "Bhu-Prasada" (gift of the Earth). Devotees often keep a small amount of this sacred sand in their homes or prayer rooms, believing it brings the protective energy of the Goddess and the stability of the shore to their households.

1. **The Connection to the Sea:** The sand is traditionally collected from the spot where the river Shambhavi meets the Arabian Sea (the *Sangama*), representing a point of immense natural and spiritual energy.
2. **Ritual Use:** It is often used by devotees during important life milestones, such as starting a new construction or during agricultural sowing, to seek the Goddess's blessing for the land.

## 1. Spiritual Significance: The "Bhu-Shakti"

- **Symbolism:** Since the temple is located at the *Sangama* (confluence) of the Shambhavi River and the Arabian Sea, the sand is believed to be infused with the combined energy of the water and the earth.
- **Protection:** It is considered a "Raksha" (protection). Devotees believe that keeping this sand in their homes wards off negative energies and brings the steady, grounding presence of the Goddess.

## 2. Practical & Traditional Uses

- **New Beginnings:** Many people in Coastal Karnataka take a small amount of this sacred sand to sprinkle on a new site before starting house construction (Vastu) to ensure the land is blessed.
- **Agricultural Prosperity:** Farmers traditionally sprinkle the sand in their fields or granaries to pray for a bountiful harvest and to protect the crops from natural calamities.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** Some devotees apply a pinch of the sand to their forehead or chest during times of illness as a gesture of faith in the healing power of the Divine Mother.

## 3. Preservation of Tradition

- **Sustainability:** You could mention that unlike perishable flower prasada, the sand remains "evergreen." It is a permanent reminder of the devotee's pilgrimage and their connection to the coastal landscape.

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**Ref: Claude ai**

**SASIHITLU SRI BHAGAVATHY KSHETRA — Complete Guide**

## 📍 Location & Address

The temple is located at Sasihithlu, Haleyangadi, Mangalore, Karnataka – 575025. (Worldorgs) It is about 22 km from Mangalore city and about 10 km from Surathkal. (Worldorgs) From Udupi, it is approximately 36 km south on NH66. (Shahbaz Alam)

**Phone**: The temple's Facebook page is the best contact point (see Donation section below for bank details). No verified direct phone number is publicly listed — it is advisable to call the Canara Bank Haleyangadi branch for temple contact.

## 🚗 How to Get There

**By Road**: Take NH66 towards Mangalore, take the turn at Haleyangadi, and follow the road to Sasihithlu. From Bangalore, it is about 360 km via NH75, approximately 7–8 hours by road. (Shahbaz Alam)

**By Bus**: From Mangalore, take a bus to Mukka. From Mukka, take either a private bus or a shared auto to reach the temple. (Top Rated Online)

**By Train**: Take a train to Mangalore and then proceed by road. Surathkal is the nearest railway station (about 10 km away). (Shahbaz Alam)

**By Air**: Mangalore Airport is the closest airport, about 23 km away. You can book a taxi from there to reach the temple. (Hotel Beach Side)

## ✨ Greatness of the Temple

Shree Bhagavathi Kshetra is one of the very ancient, historical, and famous temples. It is a religious center thriving in the picturesque beauty of the coastal line of Dakshina Kannada. Nestling in the vast area of sand between the Arabian Sea on the west and the Nandini River on the east, Goddess Shree Bhagavathi has been bestowing her devotees toward fulfillment of their desires. (Worldorgs)

Sasihitlu is counted among the Seven Shaktikendras (Sapta Durgas) of Tulunadu, the seven being: Bhagavati Devi at Sasihitlu, Durgaparameshwari at Bappanadu, Durgaparameshwari at Kateel, Durgaparameshwari at Kunjargiri, Durgaparameshwari at Chitrapura, Durgaparameshwari at Mundkur, and Rajarajeshwari at Polali. (Worldorgs) (WordPress)

The Goddess here is revered as the eldest among the Sapta Durga sisters. (Worldorgs) The temple is especially considered powerful by the fishing community of the region — fishermen pray here before venturing out to sea for a good catch and offer gold ornaments as thanksgiving. (Worldorgs)

## 📖 Legends & History

According to legend, once there was a demon king called Darigasura who defeated the Devatas and Lord Vishnu and seized Vishnu's divine weapons. While Lord Vishnu mourned for his lost weapons, Goddess Durgaparameshwari appeared in the form of seven divine women — the Sapta Durgas — and promised to slay the demon. (WordPress)

Goddess Bhagavathi appeared before Darigasura disguised as an old woman begging for a meal, and through this ruse recovered Lord Vishnu's weapons from the demon's wife. Enraged at being deceived, Darigasura declared war. Goddess Bhagavathi then took the form of Bhadra-Kali and slew the demon when he came for evening worship at a Shiva temple. (WordPress)

After slaying Darigasura, Bhagavathi accompanied by her sister goddesses and Deity Guliga visited Lord Vishnu and requested a sandalwood boat for a journey from Vaikunta (heaven) to Bhooloka (earth), with the intention of settling among earthly people. The boat came to earth and arrived at Sasihithlu near Mulki. There, Bhagavathi accepted a tender coconut from a lower-caste devotee and chose to settle there — a powerful symbol of her compassion across all castes. (WordPress)

There is also a huge rock behind the shrine that is said to grow year by year. When temple trustees once attempted to cut it due to obstruction, the rock reportedly bled. Through a Prashna (divine inquiry), it was revealed that the rock was formed by the Tiger — the vahana (vehicle) of Sri Durgaparameshwari — who had taken that shape and resided with the Goddess. (WordPress)

### Architecture of the Temple

The temple's angana (courtyard) is filled entirely with sand, making it one of the most unique temples in the region — devotees literally walk on beach sand inside the temple premises. (Worldorgs) The temple has a small sacred water body just outside its premises, with lilies growing in it and steps leading down — believed to be used for ritual purification before entering the temple. (Top Rated Online) The temple has the traditional Tulu Nadu style of architecture with a central sanctum surrounded by an open sandy expanse.

## 🙏 Main Deity & Sub-Deities

**The presiding deity is Matha Shree Bhagavathi, worshipped here in the form of a Linga**, making it particularly sacred among the Sapta Durga Kshetras. (Worldorgs)

**Guliga** is the main sub-deity (Daiva) worshipped alongside Bhagavathi. (Wikipedia)

**A notable feature of this temple is that all poojas for the Devi are conducted by the non-Brahmin Belchada community, a rare and distinctive tradition**. (Top Rated Online)

## 🪔 Daily Rituals, Poojas & Special Sevas

The Sri Kshetra is well known for its daily pooja rituals, Annadana (free food distribution) on every Friday and on special occasions, the Nadavali festival, and Yakshagana Gejje Seva. (Worldorgs)

The temple conducts the standard sequence of daily poojas typical of Tulu Nadu temples (Pratah Pooja, Madhyahna Pooja, Sayankala Pooja, Ratri Pooja). Specific pooja charges and timings are best confirmed directly with the temple, as these are subject to change.

### 🎉 Festivals

**The Nadavali festival** is the most famous celebration here. Devotees have been attending the Nadavali festival for generations — the system and procedures followed decades ago continue to be observed to this day. (Worldorgs)

**Dasara / Navaratri** is also celebrated with special poojas and rituals. As a Shakti Kshetra, all major goddess festivals are observed with special fervour.

### 🏨 Facilities & Accommodation

The temple provides **Annadana** (free meals) on Fridays and special occasions. It is recommended to arrange accommodation in Mangalore city itself, as Sasihithlu does not have many lodging options locally.

T(Hotel Beach Side) Budget hotels in Surathkal (10 km away) or Mangalore city (22 km) are the best options for pilgrims.

### 💰 Donations & Bank Account

**The temple's donation bank details are:**

Account Number: 0637101006880

IFSC Code: CNRB0000637

Bank: Canara Bank, Haleyangadi Branch (Facebook)

### 🛕 Nearby Temples

Nearby temples include Kateel Shri Durgaparameshwari Temple (~10.5 km), one of the most revered in the Sapta Durga circuit. (Tripadvisor) Other nearby temples include Kudroli Gokarnath Temple, Kadri Manjunath Temple, Mangaladevi Temple, Someshwara Temple, Polali Rajarajeshwari Temple, and Kudupu Sri Anantha Padmanabha Temple. (Hotel Beach Side)

### 🌊 Other Tourist Attractions Nearby

Near the temple you can visit Sasihithlu Beach (right next to the temple), Panambur Beach (~15 km), Surathkal Beach (~8 km), and the NITK Lighthouse (~7.5 km). (Tripadvisor) Other attractions in the wider area include Pilikula Nisargadhama (nature park), Milagres Church, and Sultan Battery in Mangalore. (Tripadvisor)

### 💒 Nearby Budget Hotels (in Surathkal / Mangalore)

Budget-conscious pilgrims can look for accommodation in Surathkal (~10 km) or in Mangalore city (~22 km), where options range from simple lodges to mid-range hotels near

the bus stand and railway station. Hotels like Hotel Roopa, Hotel Poonja International, and several dharmashalas in Mangalore are popular with pilgrims visiting Tulu Nadu temples.

### ℹ️ Additional Notes

The temple is open to devotees of all castes and communities, reflecting the Goddess's own tradition — when Bhagavathi arrived at Sasihithlu, she accepted a coconut from a lower-caste devotee and chose to settle at that spot (WordPress) , symbolising her grace for all. The atmosphere is described by devotees as exceptionally serene and spiritually powerful, enhanced by the unique setting amid beach sands at the Arabian Sea shore.

For the most current pooja timings, seva charges, and accommodation details, it is best to contact the temple directly through their **Facebook page: "Sri Bhagavathi temple sasihithlu"** or visit in person.

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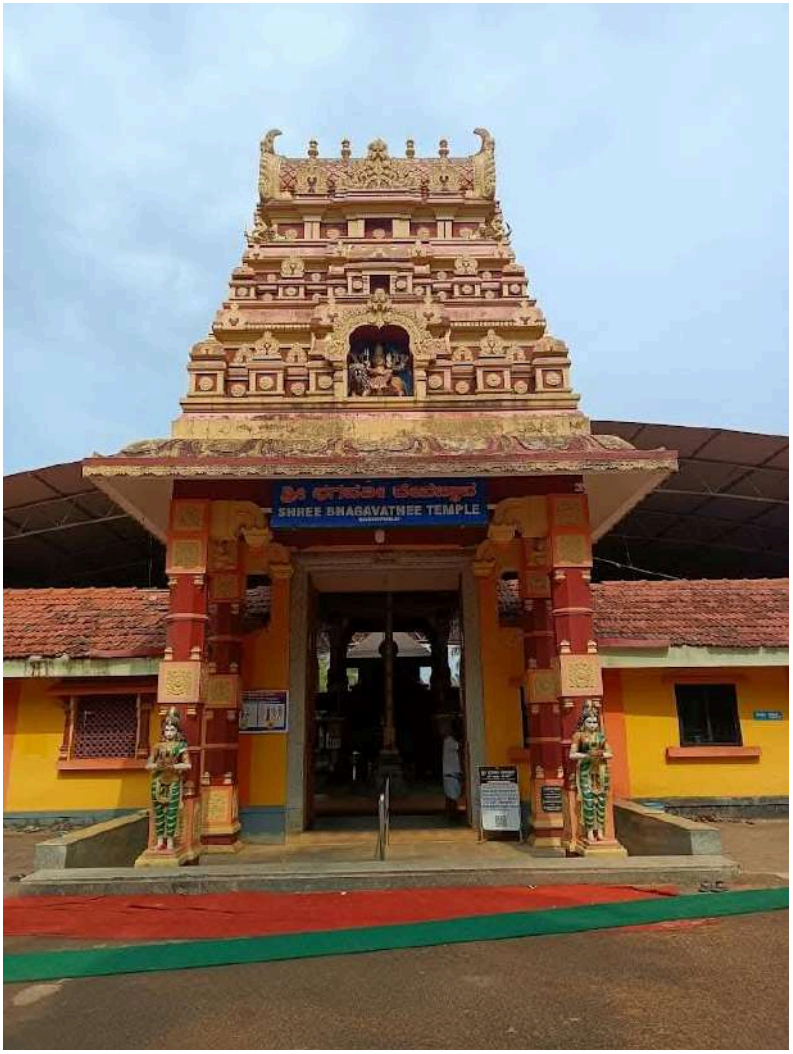
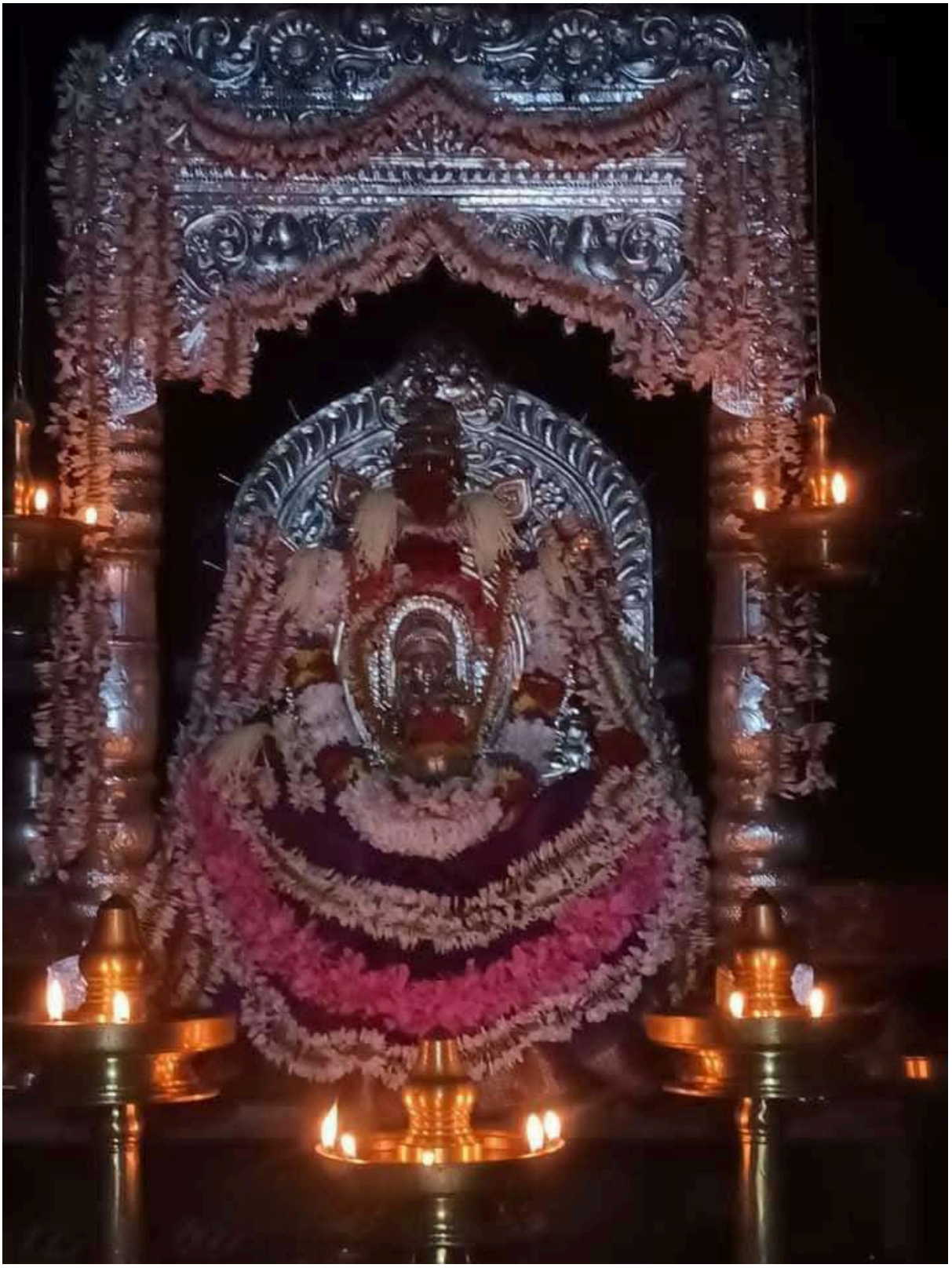
**Photos**





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**Videos**

Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathy temple (10 min.):

https://youtu.be/r04qhs4H4IU?si=47yJLr0SmNME-Rbp

Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathy temple and Sand prasada (4 min):

https://youtu.be/vq2fGlOLPuA?si=AJ2flRF06ewicROh

Sasihithlu Brahmakalashotsava 2026 (21 min):

https://youtu.be/xaDA_pLh-mU?si=bbWQOHcegvKh6Oat

Sasihitlu Sri Bhagavathy temple…kanchil deva..(Tulu)..(17 min):

https://youtu.be/oErGnjH1O7w?si=GzUSrI1D57Z31T4S

Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathy temple (4 min):

https://youtu.be/Ak8KavERWvs?si=u9cjB2HQaawoXwz6

Sasihithlu Sri Bhagavathy temple…Karavali mirror (20 min):

https://youtu.be/POEkdlYA7Tg?si=BkCR2Wv_FJxUUQrs

Sasihithlu Brahmakalashotsava 2026..Tulu language (29 min):

https://www.instagram.com/reel/DVhvD8PjFph/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

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**About the Author**

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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**Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar**
**April 10, 2026**

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